12. (Withdrawn)

REMARKS

The Office Action of October 24, 2003 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, 8, 9, 11 and 12 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 2, 7 and 10 have been indicated as being allowable, which indication is appreciatively acknowledged.

Claims 1, 5 and 6 have been amended to more clearly distinguish over the cited references. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In particular, the claims have been amended to recite adjusting an n x n color signal matrix where n is a number of primary colors in a chosen color space. Claim 1, for example, now recites a method of adjusting an n x n color signal matrix where n is a number of primary colors in a chosen color space, the method, comprising adjusting a single first color signal matrix related value to obtain a color signal matrix adjustment; and automatically adapting at least two color signal matrix parameters other than said single first color signal matrix related value in dependence upon said color signal matrix parameter adjustment.

The cited references may be considered to teach automatically adjusting other color-related values in dependence on user adjustment of one or more color-related values. Nevertheless, the references are not believed to teach or suggest the invention as claimed.

Considering first the Spaulding et al. reference, this reference relates to construction a color mapping between a first device color space (e.g., monitor) and a

second device color space (e.g., printer). The color mapping is represented in the form of a three-dimensional look-up-table. Such a look-up-table will typically have many more values than n^2 where n is the number of primary colors. Spaulding does not employ the kind of color signal matrix employed in the present invention, i.e., an n x n color signal matrix where n is a number of primary colors in a chosen color space.

The same distinction applies equally to the Bestenreiner reference. In Bestenreiner, input values R, G, B are transformed to output values R', G', B' as follows:

$$R' = Y - \frac{Y-R}{k} = (1 - 1/k) \cdot Y - R/k$$

$$B' = Y - \frac{Y-B}{k} = (1 - 1/k) \cdot Y - B/k$$

$$G' = Y - \frac{Y-G}{k} = (1 - 1/k) \cdot Y - G/k$$

where

$$Y = 0.30 \, x \, R + 0.59 \, x \, G + 0.11 \, x \, B$$

Contrast this manner of adjustment with the manner of adjustment using an n x n color signal matrix where n is a number of primary colors in a chosen color space, in accordance with the present invention. Using such a matrix:

$$R' = a_{11}R + a_{12}G + a_{13}B$$

$$G' = a_{21}R + a_{22}G + a_{23}B$$

$$B' = a_{31}R + a_{32}G + a_{33}B$$

Accordingly, it will be appreciated that the color signal adjustment method and apparatus of the present invention are distinctly different from Spaulding et al. and Bestenreiner.

Allowance of claims 1, 2, 5-7, and 10 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 9, 2004